

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 1836.

Domestic Intelligence.

Correspondent of the Courier & Inquirer.
FLORIDA WAR.

Charleston, Feb. 16, 1836.

Sir.—There seems to be at this moment a cessation of hostilities—which however, can only be temporary.—notwithstanding the very formidable force which has at length assembled in the territory, principally by means of Volunteers from the neighboring States, and Drafts from this State—in all about 1000 men from South Carolina. There must be at this moment an organized force in Florida of about 3 or 4000 men; force amply sufficient to exterminate the Seminoles, provided it acts promptly. If the Indians can protract the war for a couple of three months longer they will be enabled to summer in the territory—for the climate will then be with them and against us.

Powell or Osceola is all that he has been represented to be. I know him personally—and a man of more character, probably does not live. He remarked the last Spring while at the Agency, that he was good for five white men in battle any day—this he stated to Gen. Thompson, the Agent, and whom he afterwards shot. He has in some instances made good his words.

The destruction of property in the territory, the actual loss, and prospective, is immense. Even if reimbursed by the General Government it will take years to enable the planters of cane and cotton to recommence their operations on a scale of any consequence. Almost the whole country south of St. Augustine, and most of the St. Johns river has been laid in ruins. One gentleman alone, has lost property destroyed by the Indians to the amount of \$100,000. The country is peculiarly favorable to the Red Skins, and it is impossible perhaps to say when the difficulties may terminate.

From Florida. We have under date of 21st ult. from St. Augustine via Charleston. Two companies of U. S. Troops under Major Kirby had gone by water to Bullock's plantation, while the Irish volunteers, the Richmond Blues, and two other companies had marched for the same point.

General Scott, was passed in the St. John's river on the 19th, ascending in a steamboat to Pocolata.

Two Companies of volunteers, the German Fusiliers and Hamburg Volunteers, returned to Charleston from St. Augustine on the 23d. Two more Companies, the Washington Light Infantry and the Washington Volunteers, had also embarked on their return, and were hourly expected.

Heart-rending circumstances. On Thursday night last, three or four children, were frozen to death in this city. It seems that the mother had exerted herself during the day, to obtain wood; but that having failed entirely to get any, her children and herself being in a suffering condition, she went out about ten o'clock at night and attempted to take a board or something from a fence; in doing which, she was taken by the watchmen, who, in spite of her representations of the situation of her children, took her to the watch house. Here she again told the captain of the watch her situation, and how she had left her children, and begged in the most earnest manner to be released, and that some one might go with her and see that she had not told an untruth. The captain, however, was as cold and heedless of her entreaties as a pillar of ice, and as the shortest way to dispose of her, locked her up. In the morning, she was permitted to go home in company with a watchman, when lo! the sufferings of her little ones (one of them only three weeks old) were at an end—locked in each other's arms, they were cold and stiff—death had come to their relief. The feelings of the mother can be better conceived than described. The brutal watchmen were too callous to feel a mental pang; all they cared for was their lock-up fee. What has been done with them we know not, but hanging would be too mild a punishment for them.—*Philadelphia Herald, Feb. 5.*

FIRE!—The house of the widow Patty Perry in Greenfield, in this county, was burnt down, on Thursday last, the 15th inst., and we regret to add, she perished in the flames. She was sick and confined to her bed, which stood near the fireplace, is supposed to have caught by a spark from the fire. When found, she was lying upon the floor, burnt to death. She was 76 years of age.—*Norfolk Gazette.*

CONNEERSVILLE, (Indiana,) Jan. 23.

Whilst the people of Connersville and its vicinity were celebrating the passage of the great Improvement Bill by the firing of a piece of artillery, about 9 o'clock on the evening of the 15th inst. one of the most melancholy accidents happened which has ever occurred in the State. Because of an ineffectual swabbing of the gun, the cartridge ignited whilst the rammer was being withdrawn; by the explosion, four or five young men were instantly and awfully maimed and wounded. Alexander Saxon had one of his arms torn off, and the other so badly wounded, that both were immediately amputated above the elbow. His eyes were completely blown out of his head, and his face and head wretchedly lacerated. He was thrown over the bank to the distance of 25 feet. His friends took him to Mr. Atherton's hotel, where expired about 8 o'clock on the next morning.

Joseph Clark, another very respectable, industrious and enterprising young man, had his right arm blown off so that the physicians were compelled to amputate it also above the elbow. His face and eyes were likewise badly burnt. We are happy to state that there is a fair prospect of Clark's recovery. Abiathar Williams and William Worster were likewise very severely burnt and lacerated about the head and eyes; but it is thought that their wounds are not dangerous. The contrast between this calamitous scene and that of the great rejoicing which immediately preceded it, was awfully striking and melancholy.

GALLIE, the most profound philosopher of his age, when interrogated by the Inquisition as to his belief in a Supreme Being, replied, pointing to a saw on the floor of his dungeon, that from the structure of that object alone he would infer with certainty the existence of an intelligent Creator.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 1836.



NATIONAL TICKET.
FOR PRESIDENT OF THE U. S.
WM. H. HARRISON,
OF OHIO.
FOR VICE PRESIDENT,
Francis Granger,
OF NEW YORK.

THE WHIG CONVENTION.

To be mindful of our duty to our friends we cannot let pass the expression of our feelings of gratitude to those of them who volunteered and went forth to this convention, for the purpose of making an effort to reconcile the trifling breach existing between a large portion of our fellow citizens on political matters.

We were aware that to effect an object (not desirable with the ambitious and disappointed demagogues, we don't mean, but with those who wish for peace, harmony, and the general welfare of the country) it was absolutely necessary that they should not only sacrifice all personal and sinister considerations, but bury in oblivion those party feelings which are usually imbibed and nurtured, sometimes from very slight causes, and unimportant differences of opinion;—and they nobly did so.

The readiness and promptness, too, with which these considerations and feelings were yielded in aid of the great and paramount objects, are worthy of all praise—it may well be said and it ought to be said of the members of this convention that they possessed on small shares of real Roman patriotism and virtue. "The welfare of Rome and not the glory of Caesar," seemed to be their guide. In these nominations they appeared to seek not measures, not men. They waded all feelings of favoritism and personal predilection, and were determined to rally round the Constitution, and stick to the banner of

Harrison & Granger.

assuming that such a course would unite those of our fellow citizens who are willing to rally against usurpation and oppression. That they will thus unite we entertain not a doubt. None will falter in this course, or desert, that we want in our ranks. We want no man who is hankering after "golden" hamburgs, or the "spoils" of victory. When our ranks are well purified we shall have not less than THIRTY THOUSAND true and valiant Green Mountain Boys, ready to take the field at a moment's warning—against the Dutch, the Tories, or any other foe to our civil and religious liberties.

HARRISON & GRANGER.

The former for President and the latter for Vice President of the United States. This is the ticket we shall go for—and this is the ticket which every Whig and Antislavery paper goes for in the State, except one or two, who have been thoughtless, and the editors of which have barely sold and betrayed themselves into the hands of a faction, whose motto is "office and plunder."

THE VOICE OF 300 FREEMEN.

It having been intimated, as we are told, that a large portion of the Freemen of this town was opposed to the construction of the contemplated Railroad between this town and Whitehall, on account of its being a monopoly, &c.—an article was embraced in the warning of our late March meeting, requesting the town to take the subject into consideration.

Hence, on Tuesday last, at said meeting, (about 300 freemen being present) the question was called up and the subject resolutions introduced by Judge Strong—which after some discussion on the question of expediency and its monopolizing tendency, passed with great unanimity, there not being more than four or five persons in the negative.

Resolved, That the inhabitants of the town of Rutland do entirely approve of, and cordially wish for, the success of the project of making a Railroad from this town to Whitehall in the State of New York.

Resolved, That the application for a Railroad Bank, with a capital of \$250,000, to be located at Rutland, which is now pending in the Legislature of Vermont, is founded in the highest principles of propriety, as well for the public good, as for the individual interest of this town; and we most earnestly hope and pray that the Legislature of Vermont will incorporate said Bank.

TUNNELING THE HUDSON. It is proposed in the New York Legislature to construct a Tunnel under the bed of the Hudson opposite Albany. A proposition, for authority to undertake the enterprise has been presented to the Senate by Mr. Gansevoort. The editor of the Argus says, he has no doubt of its practicability.

CONGRESS IN SENATE. On Tuesday the 15th inst. (Feb. 23 and 24th) the bill reported by the Committee on Military Affairs, making special appropriation for a large amount, was discussed.

In the HOUSE, Tuesday and Wednesday no business of importance was transacted except the reading of the President's special Message, in relation to the French question.

In SENATE on Thursday, Feb. 25, the resolution directing the Secretary of War to cause a survey to be made for the purpose of fortifying Lake Champlain, was taken up and referred to the committee on Military Affairs.—Fortification bill considered and laid upon the table. The Senate went into executive business for an hour and then adjourned.

In the HOUSE, the executive patronage bill from the Senate, and the New York Relief Bill were considered.

In SENATE Friday, Feb. 26, a message was received from the President in relation to claims for French Spoliation, rejected in the Treaty of 1821. The Senate did not sit on Saturday.

In the HOUSE, no business of importance was transacted either on Friday or Saturday.

In SENATE Monday, Feb. 29, the following communication was laid before the Senate by the Chair:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.
Sir:—I beg leave through you to inform the Senate that I have on this day resigned into the hands of the General Assembly of Virginia, for reasons fully made known to it, my seat in the Senate of the United States, as a Senator from that State. This announcement is now made so as to enable the people at its earliest pleasure to fill such vacant

Sir, if a deepo time to be sprung upon us, for years' sake let it be known, that we may strike it down of course from it. Let us see and know it as approaching, that we may stand and strike, or like our fathers, "take the wings of the morning, and fly to the uttermost parts of the earth," to escape its iron grasp, and find a home for the free Do not give us a secret despotism! I pray God to save this country from a secret despotism! If there is an unavoidable political sin, it is the intent and the overt act to bring about a secret despotism. I ask, why was so much secrecy in relation to the plans of the Executive necessary? Was there more meant than was expressed by the amendment? I confess, sir, I am bewildered and amazed! "The chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means covertly whisking the wish of the Executive to have placed at his disposal 3,000,000 dollars, and enjoying secrecy! I can conceive of no conduct so reprehensible, so odious, so abominable! Done too, by a member of the Democratic Republican Party!"—done by a Representative of a free People! Sir, I was about to say that the Executive would not dare to betray a secret of that sort to any patriot in Congress, he, any man who loved his country, would have spread the communication with indignant warmth, and have exposed it upon the spot! They pardon my friend from Tennessee (Mr. Lea) for saying this so strongly, as he did not announce the fact as soon as he was told of it. I know sir, he was honest, and I know the circumstances under which the secret was whispered in his ear. It no doubt did not strike him then as it strikes me now. Sir, if we are to have a despotism I pray Heaven again it may come upon us in a bold and manly way. Let the man who is to subvert our liberties come with the boldness of a Napoleon; let him, in the sight of the People, put on the Imperial Purple and the Crown! We will know then the worst, and can prepare the armor of our defence. I could admire, whilst I should strike the tyrant of genius and brave ambition, who would attempt to seize upon our liberties by force. But, of all despots, that brought upon an unsuspecting People, a confiding, a generous, free People, though the pimps, imps, and spies, tools, pensioned trained bands of secret corruption, the most loathsome, the most despicable, the most to be dreaded.

Sir, I remember well that when that night, two of my colleagues (Messrs. Gordon and Gholson) warned us against trusting so much of the Executive, I, for one, denied that it was "any pitiful administration or anti-administration measure," I thought so in truth and honest sincerity. It was expressly denied by gentlemen from North Carolina (Mr. Bynum) that the President had called for this appropriation, and they contended that we had no right to infer that it was his wish. When I returned home to my good constituents, and was arranged for voting three millions to the President to do with as he pleased, I vindicated myself by showing these very denials that it was the wish of the President to have this appropriation made. It was over and over repeated in your presence Mr. Speaker, and in that of the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (Mr. C.) that the President did not call for the appropriation, and that no man, therefore, could be impeached for man-worship who voted for it. And it was as frequently asked whether we would appropriate a large sum without a call from the President. You, sir, and the other gentleman, knew the secret, were present, and neither corrected the denials or answered the inquiries! Sir, you permitted truth to fall in the streets. Knowing the secret and not disclosing it, would have been bad enough; but knowing it and keeping it confidentially secret of the three millions, and enjoying secrecy upon them—is awfully alarming! The secrecy I say simplifies some object in the amendment which is not expressed. What was that object? Were three millions wanted for a peace establishment? Certainly not in the estimation of the Executive, or it would long ere then have been recommended. If for peace, he should have given us information at the previous session. Without doubt the President did not suddenly find out, on the last day of the last Congress, that three millions were wanted for a peace establishment. No, it was not for peace.

Sir, when the Executive desires an appropriation, if he will give me the information of the state of the Union, which he is bound to give, and show me that the public good requires it, and how and for what it is to be made, I, for one, will never be negligent in voting supplies. The Secret Committee is already without recommendation from the Executive, or instruction from this House of its own motion, inquired into the expediency of increased appropriations. My policy and views are the same as when I voted for the three millions amendment. If war is to come, I fear only the consequences of being unprepared. We have the sinews of war and should apply them in time.—With an unyielding Treasury, and a quarrel with France to settle, I would have voted liberally the supplies asked for, but until now none have been called for. I am for peace—peace! for the sake of peace! But if war must come we must be ready. Since the rejection of the most conciliatory overture of compromise unless there is a mediation of some sort, I cannot see how war is to be avoided. France will not strike, but she will not pay the money. We will not explain it seems, and having the cause of war on our part, we cannot remain inactive. But, sir, I do not mean to say that I will take part with France against the President, much less will I against the Congress of the United States. I shall go for any country "right or wrong." And, sir, as I would not—I am sure the President will agree with me in this, for he knows all about the spot—put a game chicken without his gills on, I might, perhaps, a domino, just to see him killed. Much less would I send out our old ships, which have whipped the proudest of England's navy, to fight Frenchmen without batteries complete, and the gallant sons of our Army and Navy, without sword and buckler, and mail of tripple steel! But, sir, I must have the recommendation, the estimates, the data, and there must be no juggling! Let the Executive come forward and recommend what is to be done. I will rely chiefly upon his knowledge of the war. He should have come forward last session. We must have communications from the Department. They know of the necessity of which we are ignorant. Even the "fourth department" of the Government, the Globe, has been furnished with more information than has been given to us, to whom it is all, all

without reservation due. If war does depend upon the will of our man, he will have enough to do his bidding, to vote when he bids them to vote, to be silent when he bids them; in short, to say "ay or no," as he may prompt!

Sir, I must hereafter—I have been bitten once by low party tricks and chicanery practiced to put an immense sum at the secret service of "the party" I say I must hereafter know to a certainty that an appropriation is to be applied to the purposes of national defence and not of electioneering, before I vote for it. Every man in the Government is now authorized and franked to electioneer, from Indian agents and postmasters up to the President. We now have a President electioneering for his successor, and it is time the nation was told of it by the voice of a trumpet! Sir, since the publication of that letter of outrageous dictation and of flattery to the "Government patronage" in conflict with the purity of elections; that letter to a member of the Tennessee Legislature, which appears in the Government Official, and is there not only justified but lauded, claiming the right to employ all constitutional powers to expunge a resolution of one Branch of Congress, and the right to interfere with the independence of State and Federal Legislatures, I feel constrained by the love I bear my country to "very loud and spare not!" Sir, I wish to see the public mind concentrated on these facts.

[Concluded next week.]

United States and France.

Reported for the Journal of Commerce.

UNITED STATES SENATE.

Monday, Feb. 2d.

The President of the United States, by the hands of Major Donelson, communicated the following:

MESSAGE

To the Senate and House of Representatives.

I transmit, herewith, to Congress, copies of the correspondence between the Secretary of State and the Charge d'Affaires of His Britannic Majesty, relative to the mediation of Great Britain in our disagreement with France, and to the determination of the French Government to execute the Treaty of Indemnification, without further delay, on the application for payment by the Agent of the United States.

The grounds upon which the mediation was accepted will be found fully developed in the correspondence. On the part of France the mediation had been publicly accepted before the offer of it could be received here. Whilst each of the two Governments has thus discovered a just attitude to resort to all honorable means of adjusting amicably the controversy between them, it is a matter of congratulation that the mediation has been rendered unnecessary. Under such circumstances the anticipation may be confidently indulged that the disagreement between the United States and France will not have produced more than a temporary estrangement. The healing effects of time, a just consideration of the powerful motives for a cordial good understanding between the two nations, and strong inducements each has to respect and esteem the other, will no doubt soon obliterate from their remembrance all traces of that disagreement.

Of the elevated and disinterested part the Government of Great Britain has acted and was prepared to act, I have already had occasion to express my high sense. Universal respect, and the consciousness of meriting it, are with Governments as with men, the just rewards of those who faithfully exert their power to preserve peace, restore harmony, and perpetuate good will.

It is a source of regret to me, at this time, without cause from the Executive, in response to the other Department or branch of the Government, to refer to the want of active preparation in which our country was found at the late crisis. From the nature of our institutions, the movements of the Government in preparation for hostilities must ever be too slow for the exigencies of unexpected war. I submit it then to you, whether the first duty we owe to the People who have confided to us their power, is not to place our country in such an attitude as always to be so amply supplied with the means of self-defence as to afford no inducement to other nations to presume upon our forbearance, or to expect important advantages from a sudden assault, either upon our commerce, our seacoast, or our interior frontier. In case of the commencement of hostilities during the recess of Congress the time inevitably elapsing before that body could be called together, even under the most favorable circumstances, would be pregnant with danger and if we escaped without a single disaster or national dishonor, the hazard of both unnecessarily incurred, could not fail to excite a feeling of deep reproach. I earnestly recommend to you, therefore, to make such provisions, as in no future time we shall be found without ample means to repel aggression, even although it may come upon us without a note of warning. We are now, fortunately, so situated, that the expenditure for this purpose will not be felt; and, if it were, it would be approved by those from whom all its means are derived, and for whose benefit only it should be used with a liberal economy and an enlightened forecast.

In behalf of these suggestions, I cannot forbear repeating the wise precepts of one whose counsels cannot be forgotten: "The United States ought not to indulge a persuasion that, contrary to the order of human events, they will forever keep at a distance those painful appeals to arms, with which the history of every other nation abounds. There is a rank due to the U. S. among nations which will be withheld, if not absolutely lost, by the reputation of weakness. If we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity, it must be known that we are, at all times, ready for war."

ANDREW JACKSON.

February 22, 1836.

The correspondence accompanying the message, consists of four letters—the first, from Mr. Bankhead, Charge d'Affaires of the British Government, offering the mediation of his Government—the second from Mr. Forsyth, accepting that mediation, and protesting at the same time against the assumption of the right of France to demand explanation of language used in communications between two branches of our Government. The third and fourth letters, announcing the termination of the difficulty, will be found below.

The undersigned, his Britannic Majesty's Charge d'Affaires, with reference to his note of the 27th of last month, has the honor to inform Mr. Forsyth, Secretary of State of the U. S. that he has been instructed by his Government to state, that the British Government has received a communication from that of France, which fulfills the wishes that impelled his Britannic Majesty to offer his mediation for the purpose of effecting an amicable adjustment of the difference between France and the U. S.

The French Government has stated to that of his Majesty, that the frank and honorable manner in which the President has, in his recent message, expressed himself with regard to the points of difference between the Governments of France and of the U. S. has removed those difficulties upon the score of national honor, which have hitherto stood in the way of the prompt execution by France of the treaty of the 4th July, 1831, and that, consequently, the French Government is now ready to pay the instalment which is due on account of the American indemnity, whenever the payment of that instalment shall be claimed by the Government of the U. S.

The French Government has also stated, that it made this communication to that of Great Britain not regarding the British Government as a formal mediator, since its offer of mediation had then reached only the Government of France, by which it had been accepted; but looking upon the British Government as a common friend of the two parties, and, therefore, as a natural channel of communication between them.

The undersigned is further instructed to express the sincere pleasure which is felt by the British Government at the prospect thus afforded of an amicable termination of a difference which has produced a temporary estrangement between two nations who have so many claims to esteem and who are so entitled to the friendship and esteem of each other; and the undersigned has also to assure Mr. Forsyth that it has already intimated to the British Government the most lively satisfaction to have accompanied the mediation, the channel of a communication which they trust, will lead to the prompt execution of the friendly relations between the United States and France.

The undersigned has great pleasure in relating to Mr. Forsyth the assurances of his most distinguished consideration.

CHARLES BANKHEAD.

The Hon. John Forsyth, &c.

Department of State.

Washington, Feb. 16th 1836.

The undersigned, Secretary of State of the U. S. has had the honor to receive Mr. Bankhead's note of the 15th instant, in which he states, by the instructions of his Government, that the British Government have received a communication from that of France, which fulfills the wishes that impelled his Britannic Majesty to offer his mediation, for the purpose of effecting an amicable adjustment of the difference between France and the U. S.—that the French Government, being satisfied with the frank and honorable manner in which the President has, in his recent message expressed himself in regard to the points of difference between the Governments is ready to pay the instalments due on account of the American indemnity, whenever it shall be claimed by the Government of the U. S. and that this communication is made to the Government of Great Britain not as a formal mediator, but as a common friend of both parties.

The undersigned has submitted this note of his Britannic Majesty's Charge d'Affaires to the President and is instructed to reply, that the President has received this information with the highest satisfaction, and is sincerely as he has his regret by the erroneous impression heretofore made upon the national sensibility of France. By the fulfillment of the obligations of the convention between the two Governments, the great cause of difference will be removed, and the President anticipates that the benevolent and magnanimous wish of his Britannic Majesty's Government will be speedily realized, as the temporary estrangement between the two nations, who have so many common interests, will to doubt be followed the restoration of their ancient ties of friendship and esteem.

The President has further instructed the undersigned to express to his Britannic Majesty's Government his sensibility at the anxious desire it has displayed to preserve the relations of peace between the U. S. and France, and the exertions it was prepared to make to effectuate that object, so essential to the prosperity and congenial to the wishes of the two nations, and to the repose of the world.

Leaving his Majesty's Government to the consciousness of the elevated motives which have governed its conduct, and to the universal respect which must be accorded to it, the President is satisfied that no expressions, however strong, of his own feelings, can be so satisfactorily used, which could add to the gratification afforded to his Majesty's Government at being the channel of communication to preserve and restore good will, between differing nations, each of whom is its friend.

The undersigned avails himself of this occasion to renew to Mr. Bankhead the assurance of his distinguished consideration.

JOHN FORSYTH.

Charles Bankhead, Esq.

Beautiful accident. At the morning of citizens in the Methodist church in Green street, held last evening for the purpose of taking measures to rebuild the noble structure known as "The Methodist Book Concern," very interesting and impressive addresses were delivered by the Rev. Dr. Bangs and the Rev. Mr. Waugh. In the course of his remarks, Dr. Bangs related the following remarkable incident. Among the burning fragments of books and printed sheets, which were whirled about upon the wings of the flame, and borne upward upon those of the wind, was a page of the Bible containing the LXXVth chapter of Isaiah. It was picked up on the morning of the conflagration, about 12 miles distant, on Long Island, and before the catastrophe was known which had carried it thither. It was indeed a strange messenger of truth, in double sense. For the fact is no less striking than the fact, that every word of the passage was so marked as to be intelligible, save the 11th verse, which reads in the words following:—

"Our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee, is burned up with fire: and all our pleasant things are laid waste!"—*Commercial Advertiser.*